

## **Anne Arundel County Branch** Youth and College Division # 7719

"Freedom Fighters of the New Century."

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To: Chairman Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher and Members of the Senate Judicial **Proceedings Committee** 

My name is Harold Lloyd, III. I am the President of the Anne Arundel County NAACP Youth and College Division and I represent the youth of the Maryland State Conference of the NAACP. We respectfully submit our support for SB627 which calls for a full repeal of the Law Enforcement Officer's Bill of Rights.

Last summer's outcry for police reform was supported by Marylanders of all different backgrounds who desired to see change within their distinctive communities. Demands from more than 90 organizations were proposed to ensure that law enforcement in Maryland is held accountable for any sort of misuse of power. One of their collective demands is for the full repeal of the Law Enforcement Officer's Bill of Rights.

As young people we understand the disproportionate effect this bill has had on our black and brown communities. For years this bill, one of the strongest like it in the country has allowed law enforcement to police themselves. Time after time we have heard of officers involved in violence against our peers escape accountability. So from Anton Black, to George Floyd, and Daniel Jarrell's we say enough is enough and we invite you to move this repeal forward.

This piece of legislation will help secure the safety of civilians of color who often fear for their lives daily when encountering law enforcement. As well as slowly reinstate a trust between community and police relations. It is our local government's responsibility to adhere to civilian's concerns and follow through with actions of intent. Here is the opportunity to prove to your constituency that you are listening to our voices by supporting this legislation.

According to the Baltimore Sun, a poll was conducted by Campaign Zero and YouGov finding that 71% of Marylanders are in favor of repealing the law. If you so choose to support the passing of SB627, it will be greatly appreciated by a wide range of civilians across the state of Maryland. We advocate for this legislation to be passed as we know that it is a very essential part of police reform not only in our state but across the country. We want to make sure that the state of Maryland does its due diligence to be set apart from other states that may not understand the importance of police reform.

Therefore, we are requesting the full repeal of LEOBR and urge a positive action on behalf of this legislation.

President - Harold Lloyd: Harold Leoyd

Secretary- Armani Jackson:

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